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General Assembly

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 12 April 2018

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/72/L.42 and A/72/L.42/Add.1)*]

72/273. Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea

The General Assembly,

Referring to the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage measures for regional cooperation to advance the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Referring also to its resolution 63/133 of 11 December 2008, by which it granted the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea observer status in the General Assembly,

Acknowledging that the negative humanitarian, environmental and socioeconomic consequences of the Aral Sea basin tragedy go well beyond the region and represent a global concern,

Welcoming the efforts of the States members of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea to attain objectives consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Convinced that the activities of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea and its bodies should take into account the interests and needs of all the countries of Central Asia,

Reaffirming that achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social or humanitarian nature is one of the purposes of the United Nations,

Referring to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolution 1631 (2005) of 17 October 2005, as well as statements by the President of the Council in which the Council emphasized the importance of developing effective partnerships between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with the Charter,

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Welcoming the commitment of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea to intensifying and deepening its cooperation with the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system,

Convinced that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea will advance the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

1. *Notes* the need for further improvement of the activities of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea to strengthen regional cooperation in such areas as social and economic development; environmental protection and response to natural disasters; water resources management; adaptation to climate change and mitigation of its consequences; exchange of information; science and innovation; and other related areas;

2. *Also notes* the importance of strengthening cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea, and invites the Secretary-General to hold for that purpose regular consultations with the Chair of the Executive Committee of the International Fund, making use of appropriate inter-agency forums and formats, including consultations between the Secretary-General and the heads of regional organizations;

3. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system, as well as international financial institutions, to develop their cooperation with the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", a sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea".

82nd plenary meeting
12 April 2018